

KNIGHTDALE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

950 Steeple Square Court, Knightdale, North Carolina 27545

August 19, 2015

The Knightdale Public Safety Committee met at 6:00pm in the Council Chambers of Town Hall.

Present:

Councilman James Roberson, Councilman Mike Chalk

Staff Members Present:

Tim Guffey, Fire Chief; Lawrence Capps, Police Chief; Town Manager,

Seth Lawless

Others Present:

Dirk Hart, Emerald Pointe Resident

Councilman Roberson called the meeting to order at 6pm. The minutes from the June 17th PSC meeting were reviewed and approved.

Mr. Dirk Hart was allowed to address the committee regarding speeding issues in the Emerald Pointe subdivision. He confirmed a desire that had been previously expressed by the community's residents to see a reduction in the speed from 25mph to 15mph. Information regarding educational and enforcement efforts, as well as the data from recent speed studies, was provided by Chief Capps. Evidence suggests that some speeding is still occurring. PSC members decided to bring the issue out of committee and before the Council vote to change the speed limit throughout the subdivision to 15mph.

Chief Capps reported that the Police Department has completed its hiring process. 31 applications were received from people meeting the minimum qualifications. The 4 top performing candidates were hired and will be introduced at the next Council Meeting. These hires now place the agency at full staffing.

The PSC members were also alerted to an item that would appear on the August 19th consent agenda. The Police Department is seeking approval from Council to reclassify one police officer position as a Traffic Sergeant in preparation for the 2 new GHSP funded traffic officer positions being added this fall. The Traffic Sergeant will operate under the Support Services Division, and is responsible for direct supervision of the Traffic Officers, compiling and reporting GHSP data, and overseeing the agency's traffic enforcement field operations.

Chief Capps provided a report on quarterly crime trends. 2nd quarter crime totals for 2015 were up from the 1st quarter of the year. The Police Department saw the most increases in larceny, vandalism, and fraud reports. Although the number of criminal events increased during the 2nd quarter, the overall rate is down 6% compared to this same period last year.

Final adjustments were made to the advisory board, and a final proposal for the Board's creation will come before Council at the next session.

Chief Guffey announced that the Fire Department received a 6 month extension on the grant total about \$63k. The funds will be used to support a volunteer bunk room, some additional new turnout gear, and some books for its library.

The Fire Department also conducted a promotional assessment for a vacant captain position. The assessment was conducted Monday, 8/10 and Tuesday, 8/11 which included a practical exercise at The Wake County Training Center to test their crew resource management, a written test, and an oral interview. Results and a promotional announcement will be made in the coming weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.

Councilman James Roberson

Committee Chairman